

JPL Innovation Foundry

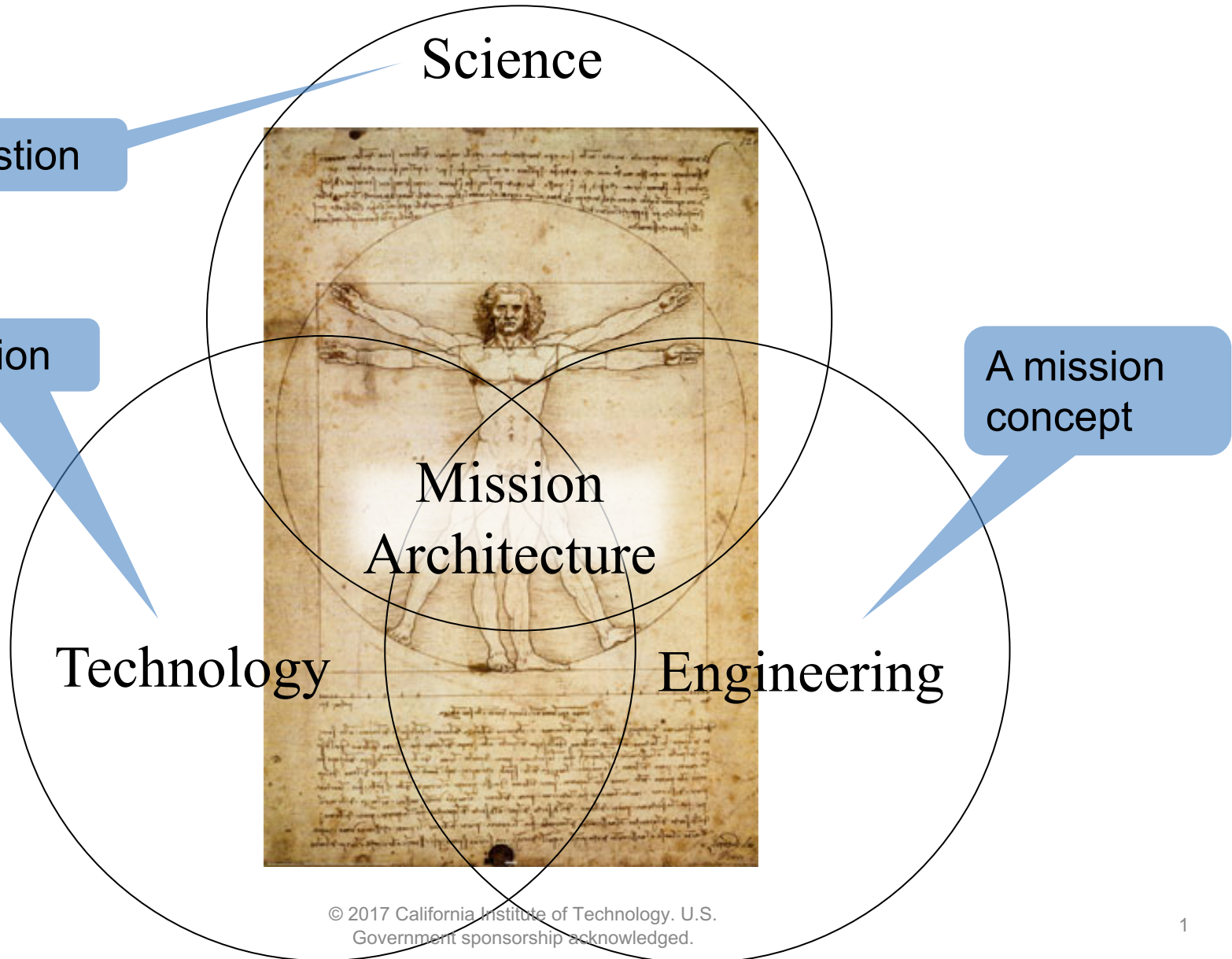
# How JPL Formulates SmallSat Missions Using A-Team and Team X<sub>c</sub>

2018 Smallsat Conference  
Logan, Utah

Steve Matousek, Advanced  
Concept Methods Manager  
Annie Marinan, Team Xc lead

Jet Propulsion Laboratory,  
California Institute of  
Technology

# Every mission starts with a spark



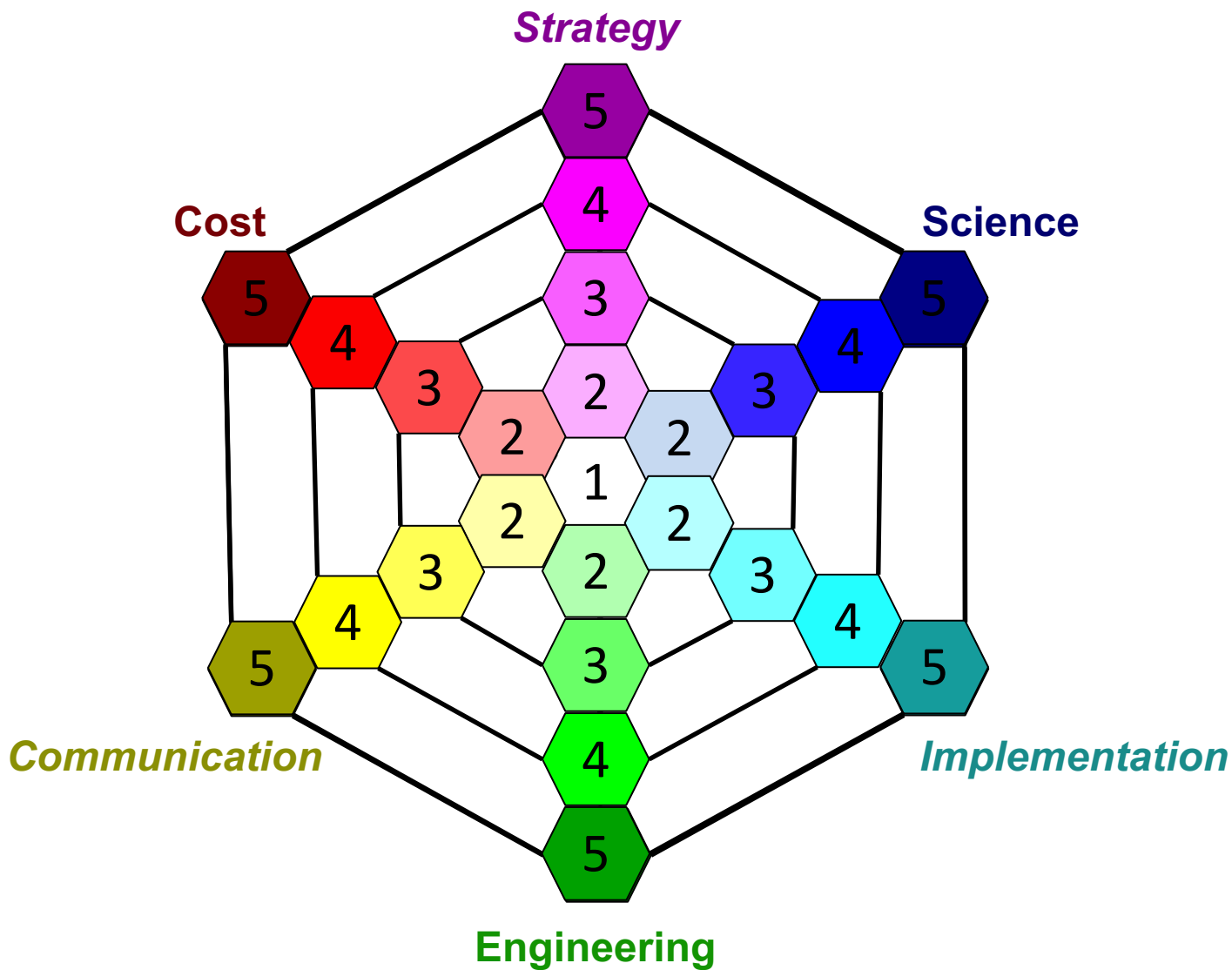






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# Mature Concept is Self-Consistent in All 6 Dimensions of the Concept Maturity Level (CML)



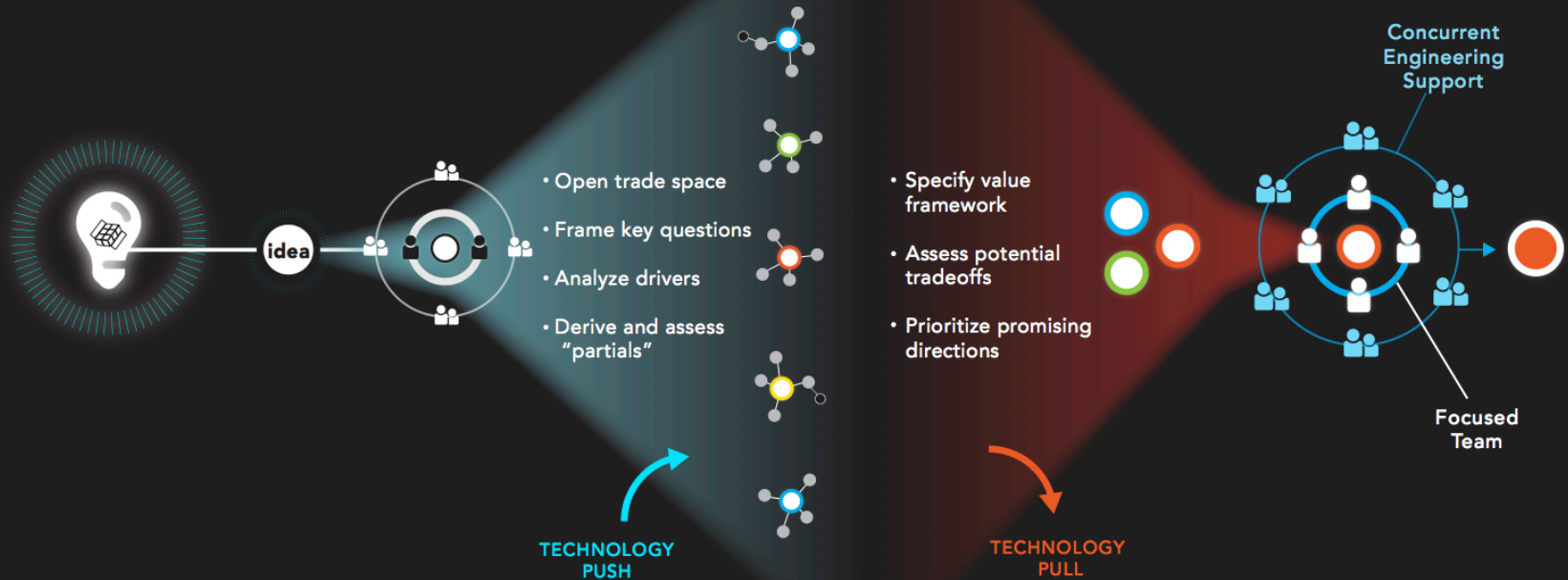


CML 1

CML 2

CML 3

CML 4



## A-TEAM

Salient kernal  
documentedFundamental  
feasibility of one  
approach  
validatedTrade space  
understoodConcept baseline  
engineered,  
costed, bench-  
marked

LEGEND:

IDEA

CONCEPT  
PROTOTYPE

POINT DESIGN



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# The A-Team



A guided conversation with set objectives and proven methods

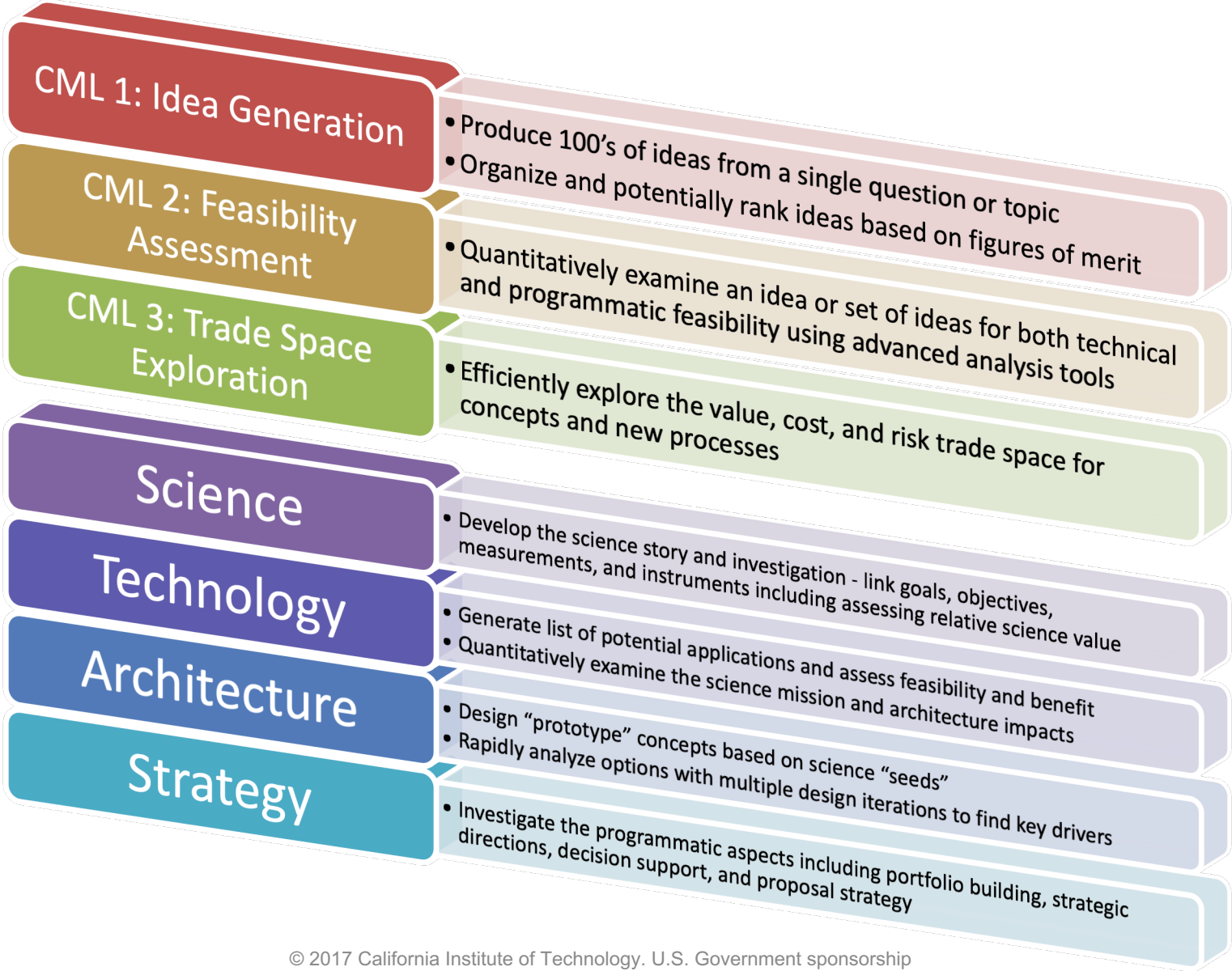
An early focal point for concept teams to build and mature ideas

A network of experts, leaders, and innovators

A center for intellectual honesty and exploration



# A-Team Study Types







# Design Thinking and Visual Strategy

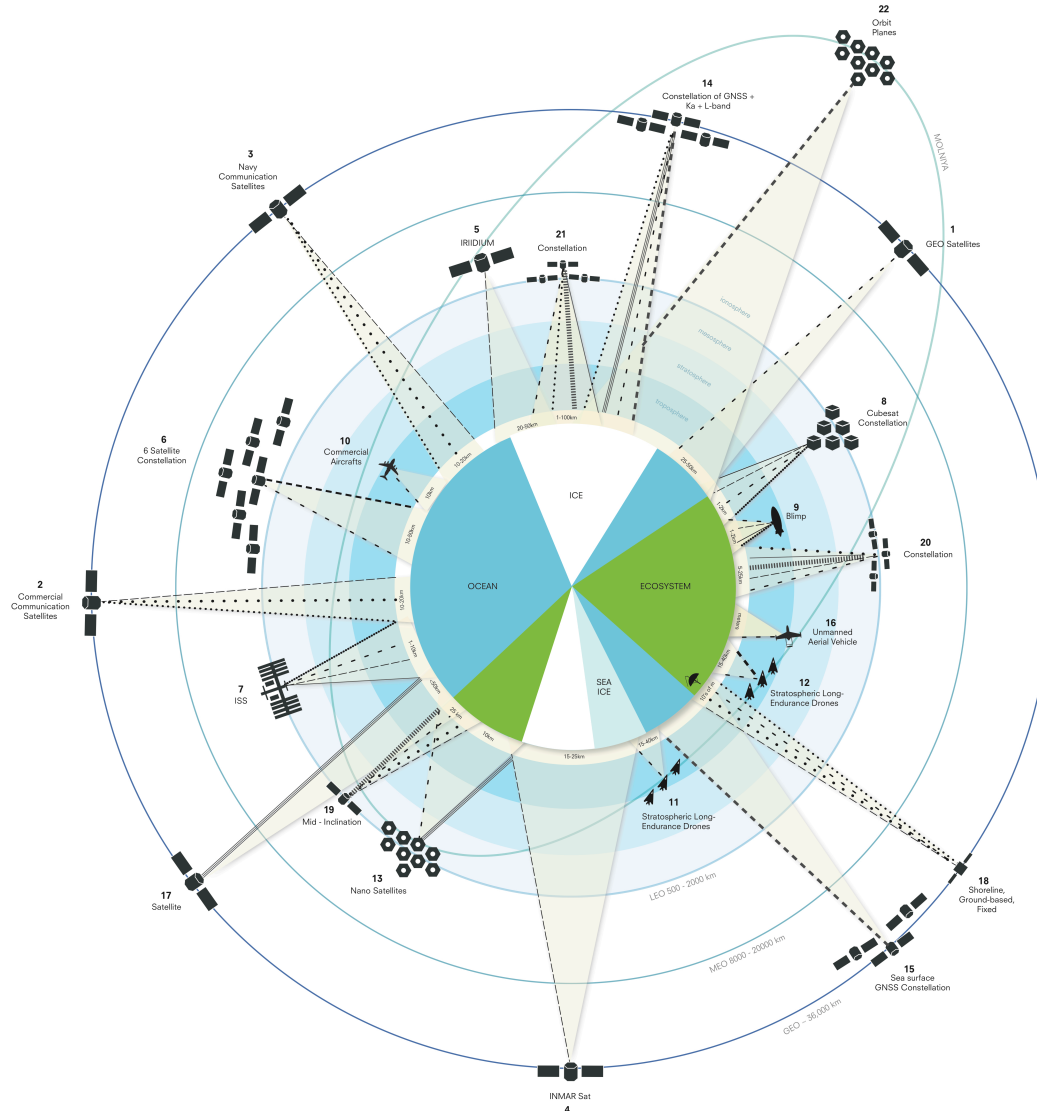
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## PLATFORM

- 1 GEO SATELLITES
- 2 COMMERCIAL COMM SATELLITES
- 3 NAVY COMM SATELLITES
- 4 INMAR SAT
- 5 IRIDIUM
- 6 STATIONARY SITE
- 7 SATELLITE CONSTELLATION
- 8 ISS
- 9 CUBESAT CONSTELLATION
- 10 COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFTS
- 11 STRATOSPHERIC LONG-ENDURANCE DRONES
- 12 STRATOSPHERIC LONG-ENDURANCE DRONES
- 13 NANOSATELLITES
- 14 CONSTELLATION OF GNSS+Ka+L-BAND
- 15 SEA SURFACE GNSS CONSTELLATION
- 16 UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLE
- 17 SATELLITE
- 18 SHORELINE, GROUND-BASED, FIXED
- 19 MID-INCLINATION
- 20 LEO CONSTELLATION
- 21 LEO CONSTELLATION
- 22 ORBIT PLANES

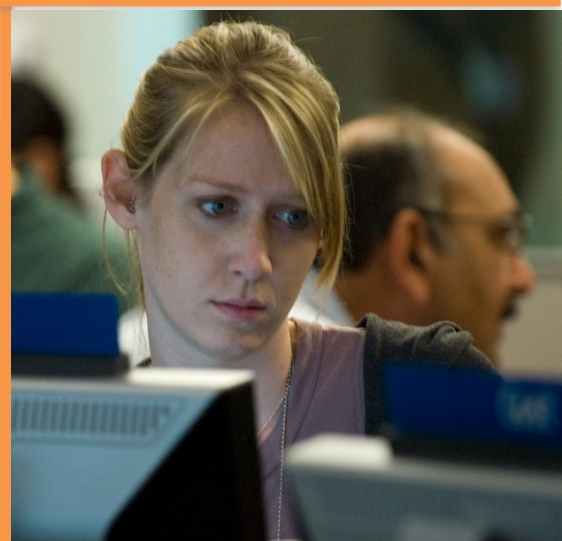
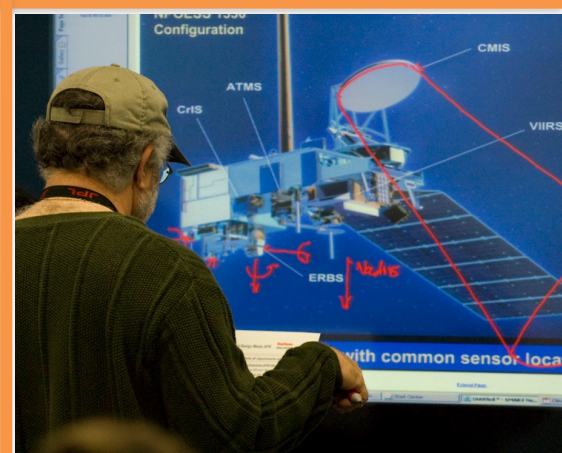
## WAVELENGTHS

- ..... K-band
- ..... Ka-band
- ..... Ku-band
- ..... L-band
- ..... S-band
- ..... X-band
- ..... C-band
- ..... GNSS
- ..... Multiple



## ICONS

- Satellites
- Cubesats
- Nanosats
- Drones
- International Space Station
- Blimp
- Commercial Aircraft
- Unmanned Aerial Vehicle
- Direct Broadcast Dish
- Public and Private Satellites





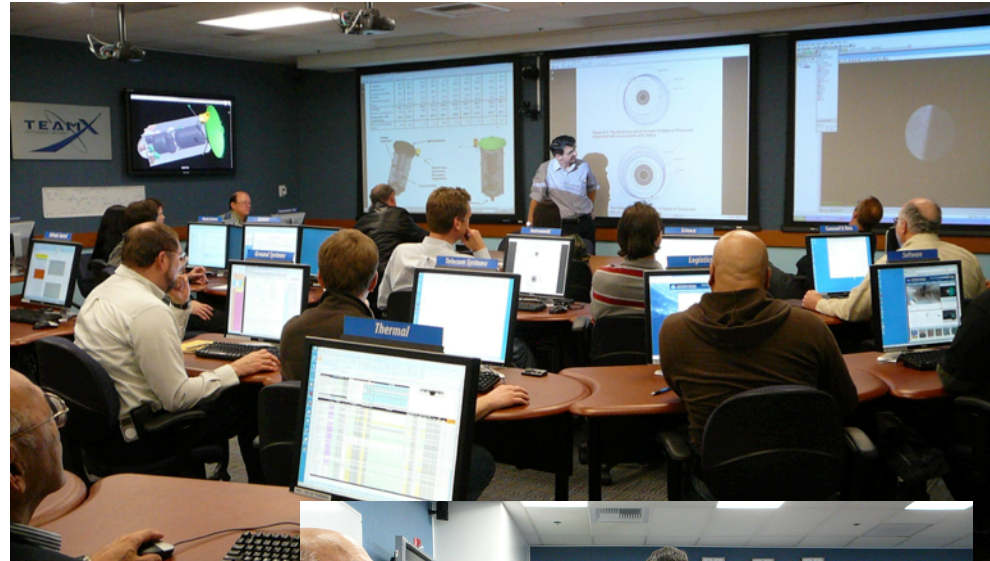


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# $>>10^3$ Team X Studies

**Team X is a concurrent engineering team for rapid design and analysis of novel space mission concepts**

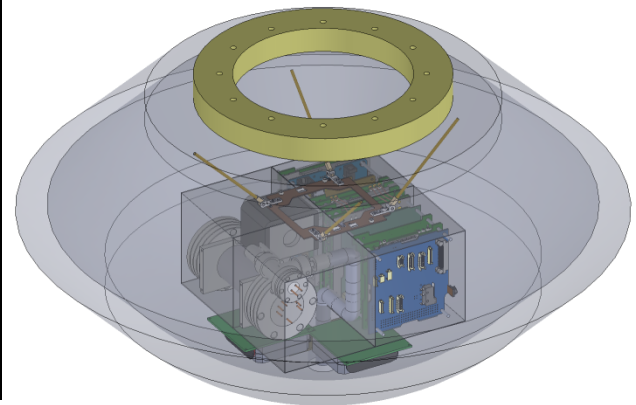
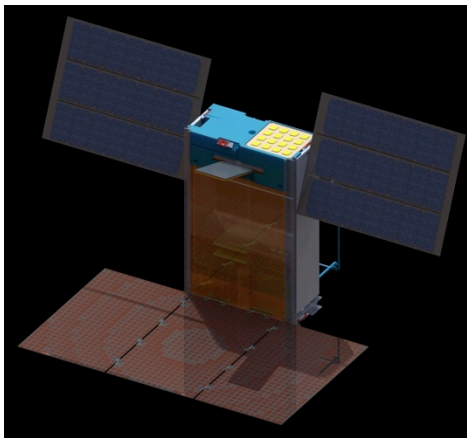
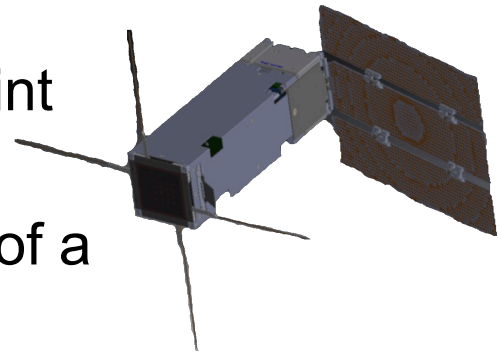
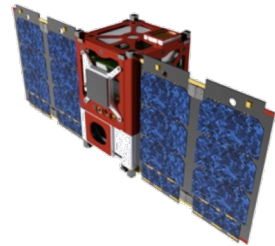
- Backed by refined and validated, institutionally supported, integrated tools, models, and processes
- Staffed and backed by doing organizations
- Well-suited for all aspects of Pre-Phase A and Phase A design activities





# Team Xc – Fast Formulation

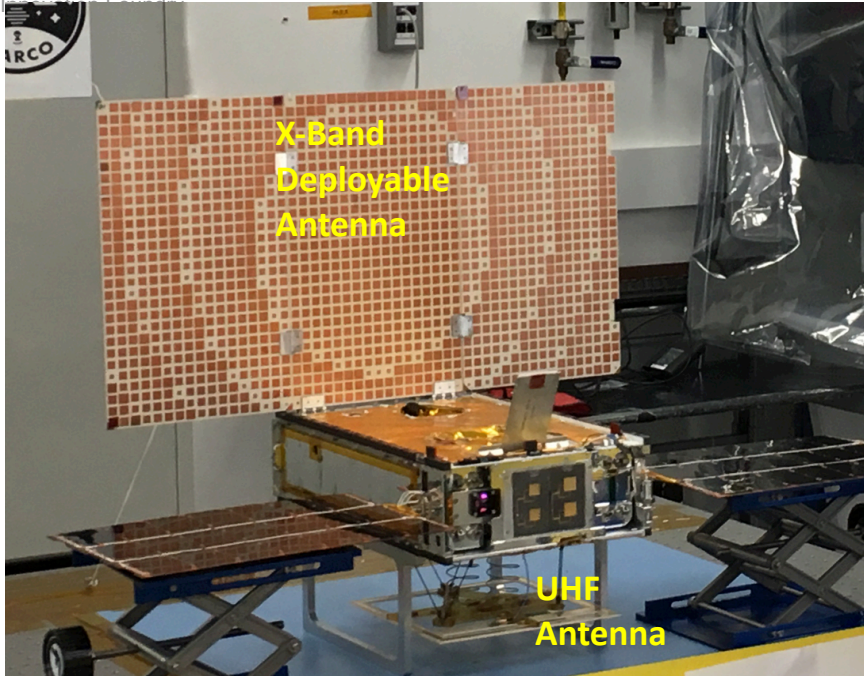
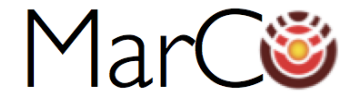
- Agile, collaborative design team built on Team X infrastructure
  - Fast turnaround for CubeSat/Smallsat mission concepts and studies
  - Quickly assess feasibility, trade space, point designs, ops concept
  - Product can include 3-D printout → more of a design than a concept





# Mars Cube One

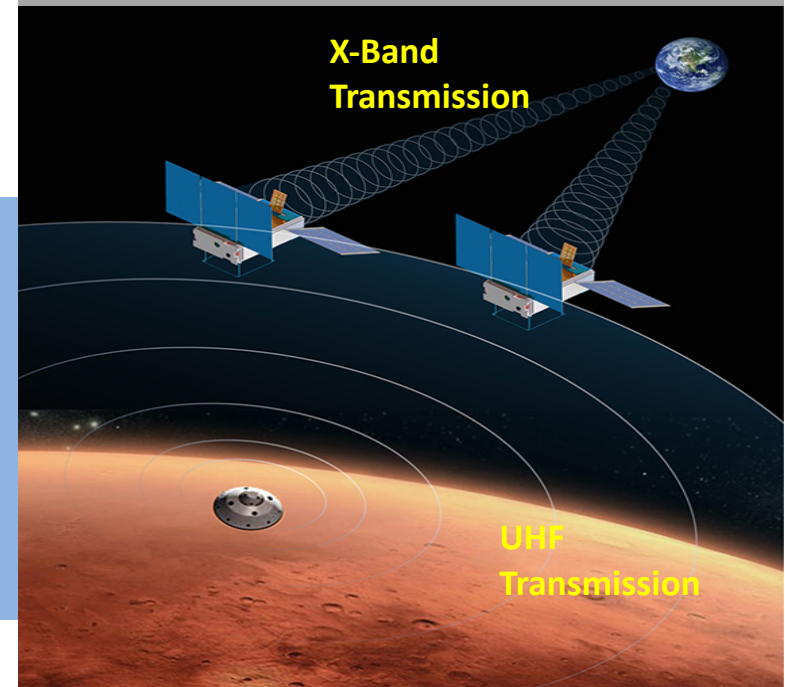
First Planetary CubeSat Mission



- Two redundant 6U CubeSat spacecraft
- Launch: May 2018; Arrival: Dec. 2018
- Real-time relay of InSight EDL data
  - UHF link: InSight lander to MarCO
  - X-band link: MarCO to Earth

**A Technology Demonstration of communications relay system for Mars missions' critical events such as the 2018 InSight entry, descent, & landing.**

*Interplanetary Travel  
Flyby Mars*







# JPL's Innovation Foundry

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FROM CONCEPT TO OPPORTUNITY